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T.W.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: James Leonard Smith

DATE: April 15, 2003

SERIAL NO: 09/856,781

GROUP ART UNIT: 3635

FILED: 09/20/2001

EXAMINER: Basil S. Katcheves

FOR: "Load-Bearing Structures"

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: A01105US (98486.2)

RECEIVED

APR 21 2003

SUBSTITUTE RESPONSE

GROUP 3600

Commissioner For Patents
Box RCE
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is a substitute response to the Office Action dated September 19, 2002. There are presently thirty four claims pending in the case and all claims stand rejected. Applicant is submitting this response in order to put the claims in condition for allowance. A shortened statutory period was set to expire three months from the date of the Office Action, making a response due by December 19, 2002.

A petition for a two-month extension of time accompanied the original response, extending the deadline for response to February 19, 2003.

This substitute response is being filed by the deadline of 17 April 2003.

AMENDMENT

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please amend page 8, lines 27-36 to read as follows:

-- Extrusion of mixes of materials to be utilised in the production of the planks or boards may take place using a high efficiency venting screw such as a Ventus screw. Additionally, one can utilise a rotary channel pump according to EP-A-0467842 for dosing into an extruder consistent

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